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43. NOTES ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF RARE AND LITTLE KNOWN *TANACETUM NUBIGENUM* WALL. EX DC. (ASTERACEAE) FROM NORTHWEST HIMALAYA

(With a text-figure)

During germplasm exploration and collection trip to Garbyang (*en route* Mansarovar Kailash), district Pithoragarh, in October, 1986 we collected a rare and interesting medicinal and aromatic plant from the interior grassy localities, stone slopes, and sandy soils in the rather arid areas of Garbyang, predominantly a tribal area (63 km away from Tawaghat, last bus terminus), surrounded by mountains, gorges, and valleys with alpine vegetation. The species was identified as *Tanacetum nubigenum* Wall. ex DC. (Asteraceae).

This plant has been reported from Pindari Glacier, Kuti Valley, Byans valley (Almora and Pithoragarh districts); Tungnath, Vashudhara, Tapovan, Chamba, Gangotri (Chamoli, Uttarkashi and Tehri districts); Shetiker-Spiti, Thali Bazar (Himachal Pradesh) areas. The presence of this species in Garbyang area hence forms a new distributional record for North-West Himalaya. Seeds have been collected and the plant specimen has been preserved by the authors at N.B.P.G.R., Regional Station-Bhowali Herbarium (N.B.P.G.R.H. - 130).

Tanacetum nubigenum Wall. ex DC. Prodr.

4: 130, 1836; Hook. f. FBI 3: 378-379, 1881; Atkinson, 508-509, 1882; Collett, 265, 1902; Duthie, 92, 1906. (Fig. 1).

Erect, woolly, aromatic, 30-45 cm tall, perennial herb. Stems many, arising from a woody base, often branched and rooting at the base. Leaves sessile, alternate, 3-pinnatisect, 1.2-4.0 × 0.1-0.3 cm; segments linear-lanceolate, subacute, entire, glabrous or appressed, hairy on both surfaces. Heads discoid, many-peduncled or sessile, 3-5 mm in diameter, in terminal corymbs. Involucral bracts broadly oblong, many erect, woolly haired, margins scarious, purple-brown, outermost linear. Corolla or disk-florets 2-5 mm long, 5-ribbed, bright yellow. Achenes smooth, ovoid-oblong. Receptacle slightly convex; pappus none.

Flowering and Fruiting: July-October.

Reference No.: National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, Bhowali Herbarium (N.B.P.G.R.H. - 130 — K.S.N. & K.C.P.).

Note: Easily distinguishable from other species of *Tanacetum*, having taller stems 30-45 cm, smaller flower heads, 3-5 mm in diameter, and leaves tripinnatisect, linear,

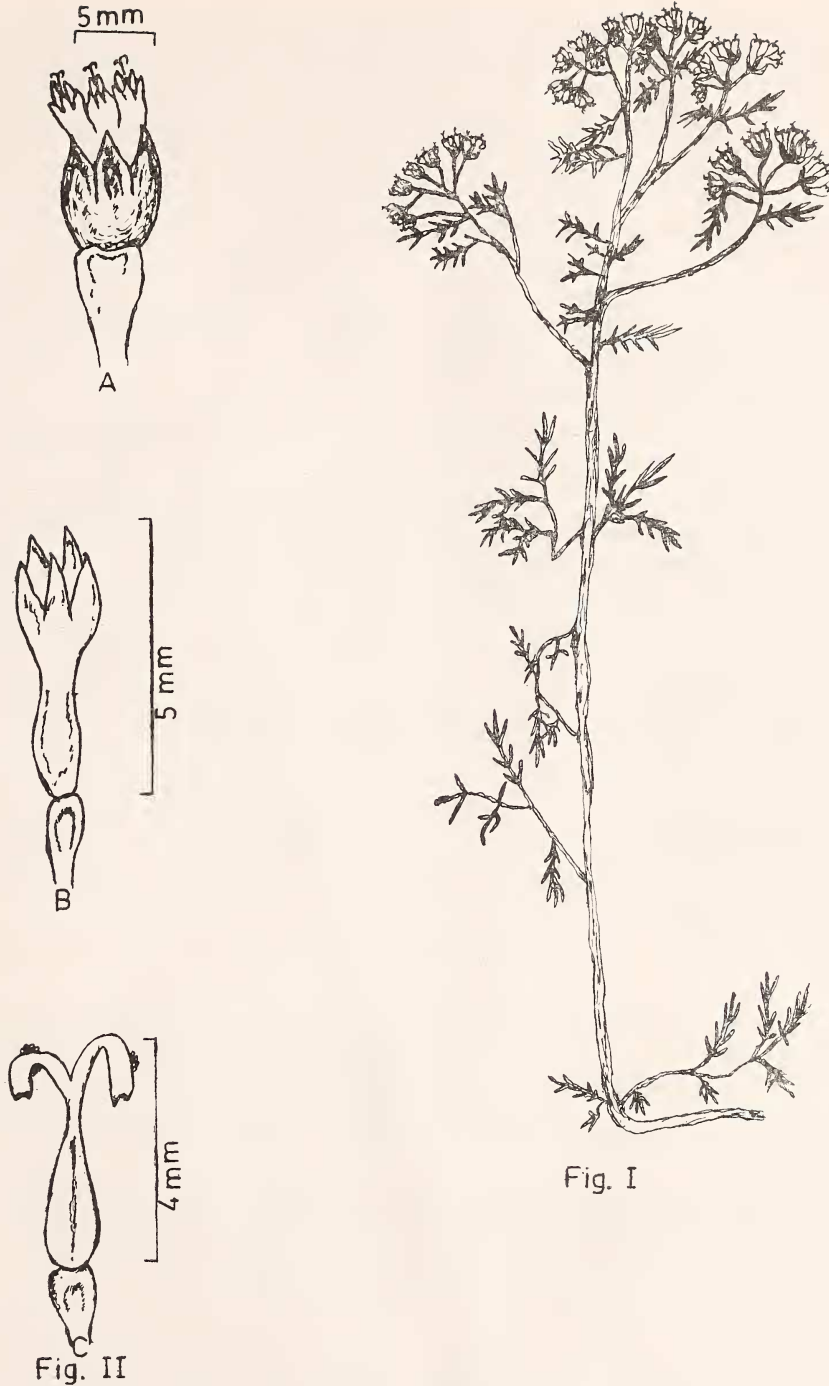


Fig. 1. *Tanacetum nubigenum* Wall. ex DC.

I: Flowering spikes with leaves.

II: A. Floral Heads (Involucral bracts, Disk florets and reproductive organs).

B. Disk-florets. C. Reproductive (Ovary, Stigma and Style).

acute lobes. A silvery-grey tufted plant with usually many stems arising from the root-stocks.

Earlier records: This species was first reported in 1883 and sporadic reports of its occurrence were available since then. It is being reported from the Garbyang region for the first time.

Distribution: Kuti Valley-Kumaon, 11200' 11.9.1884-J. F. Duthie, DD-3057; Phula Valley, Nila Valley-Tehri Garhwal, 15.8.1883-J. F. Duthie, DD-840; Byans Valley-Kumaon, 11200', 17.7.1886-J. F. Duthie, DD-6593; Thali Bazar-Himachal Pradesh, 9000', 8.10.1877-DD-566213; Pindari Glacier-Kumaon, 11200', 17.7.1885-C. E. Paskiem, DD-5980; Chamba-Ilas-Tehri Garhwal, 11000', 17.9.1896-G. A. Gamble, DD-18629; Vashudhara-Chamoli Garhwal, 3500 m, 10.10.1959-M. A. Rao, BSD-10546; Pindari-Moraine-Kumaon, 20.9.1957-T. A. Rao, BSD-4432; Tapovan-Uttarkashi, 23.8.1967-B. D. Naithani, BSD-37419;

Chamoli Garhwal, 1.9.1975-B. D. Naithani, BSD-37370; Shetiker-Spiti-Himachal Pradesh, 10.9.1961-N. C. Nair, BSD-16831.

Habitat: Rare, in alpine meadows on stony slopes, sandy soil and arid areas, associated with *Allium stracheyi*, *Arnebia benthamii*, *Calamagrostis emodensis*, *Deyeuxia pulchella*, 3800 m altitude.

Uses: This species and its allied species are used as an incense under the name 'Guggul' or 'Dhoop'.

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44. ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *HOLCOLEMMMA CANALICULATUM* (NEES EX STEUD.) STAPF ET HUBBARD, A RARE GRASS TO SOUTH INDIA, AT POINT CALIMERE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, TAMIL NADU

A study on the flora of Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary during 1982 resulted in the finding of a rare and interesting grass *Holcolemma canaliculatum* Stapf et Hubbard. The same grass had been rediscovered after a lapse of several decades from Ramanathapuram